

employment. We had truly achieved our objective — a win for industry, a win for our employees, and a win for Army logistics.

The Bottom Line — Keeping Pace

More importantly, our logistics modernization business process review resulted in a changed paradigm, a new way of doing business. It is the embodiment of acquisition reform and represents an outstanding acquisition achievement that will provide the Army with a support system to keep pace with the digitized force and successfully rival any commercial system.

Additionally, since it is trading on commercial technologies, it will keep pace with continuing advances in supply chain management and automation. It will cost no more than we were spending on maintenance, and requires no additional capital investment expenditure. The associated reduction in government employees will bring us a step closer to achieving our manpower efficiencies while simultaneously providing a soft landing for our employees.

This was an extremely challenging program and an enormous opportunity for all the outstanding people who made WLMP a reality. All of us involved with the program are proud of this achievement and look forward to more success in the future. There are many innovative ways of doing business, but our bureaucracy is often uncomfortable with change and trains us, from day one, to follow established procedures. That mentality constrains our thinking along narrow paths that will not easily lead to successful resolution of the kind of challenges that await us.

It is difficult for us within government to fashion solutions like WLMP; nevertheless, for both logistics and communications systems, this type of innovation is the essence of CECOM's contribution to the Army of the 21st century and beyond.

Editor's Note: The author welcomes questions or comments on this article. Contact him at ferlise@mail1.monmouth.army.mil.

I n s i d e D S M C

Retired Navy Rear Adm. Mike Sullivan became the Navy Chair, DSMC Executive Institute, effective March 20, 2000. Prior to his retirement from active duty in late 1998, Sullivan was the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development and Acquisition). A graduate of the University of Kansas, he completed his M.B.A. at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He also attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and Carnegie Mellon University's Program for Executives.



John C. Wilson Jr., became the DoD Chair, DSMC Executive Institute, effective Feb. 1, 2000. Wilson comes to the College from the Pentagon where he served for the past year as Director of Systems Acquisition, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics). Prior to his Pentagon assignment, he was the Executive Director of the Air Force Electronic Systems Center, Air Force Materiel Command, Hanscom AFB, Mass. A member of the Senior Executive Service and federal employee since 1974, Wilson holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from the University of New Mexico and a Master of Arts in Business Management from the University of Northern Colorado. He is a Certified Public Accountant; holds professional designations in Cost and Price Analysis and Contract Management; and is Level III-certified in Program Management, Financial Management, and Contracting.



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